equipment. The combined value of the products of Ordnance Factories and Defence PSUs during 2000-2001 has been approximately Rs.14000 crores as against approximately Rs.1800 crores on import of stores (which excludes capital equipment) comprising components, spares, overhaul etc. Government have recently allowed private sector participation in the defence industry upto 100% and also with Foreign Direct Investment permissible upto 26% both subject to licensing for manufacture of all types of defence equipment within the country. This will add to the investment already in the public sector.

Foreign Direct Investment in Defence Sector

3242. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the recent opening of defence sector for Foreign Direct Investment;

(b) whether Government has received any proposals in this sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of proposals cleared so far?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The Defence Industry Sector has been recently opened for participation by Indian Private sector upto 100% of equity, with Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), component of it being permissible upto 26% both being subject to licensing permission. It is too early to assess the impact.

Licences will be granted by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry in consultation with the Ministry of Defence. No proposal with Foreign Direct Investment has been received as yet.

Advertisement for various posts in DRDO

3243. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an advertisement (No. 58) for various posts in the Defence Research and Development Organisation was issued on 19.2.2001 and interview was held in September, 2001;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the persons who cleared the interview for Electrical Engineering were not absorbed, but, another advertisement (No. 59) was issued in October, 2001 for almost identical posts; and